

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The question of giving Civil Judicial powers to those Panchayats which do not exercise such powers at present is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How long has it been under consideration?

President.—Was it taken up for consideration? I mean, this is more or less a judgment reserved after hearing the arguments, etc. When a report is sent up, the matter is under consideration. When did you send up your report?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I cannot say the exact date. I think it was in 1101.

President.—On going through this file, I find it was sent up on the 26th of Edavam 1101. From the date of the receipt of that report, it is under consideration.

The allotment for certain Panchayats.

81. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats be pleased to mention.—

(a) the amounts allotted to and the amounts permitted to spend by the following Panchayats in the year 1101—(1) Artatt, (2) Kattakampal, (3) Porkkulam, (4) Kadavallur, (5) Kadangod and (6) Chovvannur;

(b) the reason, if any, in each case for allowing the amount allotted to lapse;

(c) whether the above Panchayats be permitted to spend the amounts allotted to them for the year 1102?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) and (b). (*Vide Appendix III.*)

(c) Yes, if they send their proposals and accounts in time.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—From Appendix III it is seen there was delay. What was the delay due to?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Amounts were advanced to them in time. They were not able to send up final accounts before the year closed.

President.—Who delayed?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The Panchayats.

President.—Did they not know that they should submit final accounts before the close of the year?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They were asked to submit final accounts by the latter part of Karkadagam. It was thought by them that we were giving amounts on the abstract bill system. But since the amount was given on the imprest system, the amount unspent would lapse, if final accounts are not submitted before the end of the year.

President.—If it was a case of amounts being advanced on abstract bills, they can make use of them completely? Is it not so?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In that case, even if the whole amount was not spent during that year, the balance could be carried over for the next year. But the amount in this case was, however, utilised.

President.—Since it was advanced on the imprest system, the balance, if any, must have lapsed. If it was advanced on the abstract bill system, the balance also could have been utilised.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In this case the whole amount was utilised, but the amount was not finally debited.

President.—Do you know how much was spent for the work?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The whole amount was spent.

President.—So it is only a question of settling accounts.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—My point is the amount sanctioned to the Panchayats in my constituency is very small, and even from that amount a portion is allowed to lapse, in those Panchayats. With insufficient funds, it is difficult to do justice to works undertaken by them.

President.—Is not Kattakampal in your constituency? We have allotted Rs. 370 for it.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The amounts allotted to the Panchayats in my constituency are too small when compared with grants to some other Panchayats. I just wanted to bring to the attention of the Government that those Panchayats also should be treated as other Panchayats, especially in the matter of giving funds.

President.—The point brought to our notice is the glaring disproportion in the matter of the funds allotted for several other Panchayats. Why should we be partial?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Allotments are made to the several Panchayats with reference to the proposals submitted by them.

President.—Do you mean to say that, with regard to these Panchayats, they don't make requirements for substantial amounts?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They asked only for small amounts.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Last time they had asked for more money. I say that justice is not done to these Panchayats, and not merely for one year. In 1998 the amount was small; for 1999 and 1900 the amount given was the same.

President.—In the case of Kandanasseri we give a big amount. By this I do not mean to say that there are no other Panchayats, in which bigger amounts are given.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—And yet the amounts given are allowed to lapse.

President.—In Vilvattam we spent a large amount. Why is it?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There were a few *chiras* under Sirkar management. There were also certain irrigation works to be done. That was why a big allotment was made.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—With regard to these Panchayats, I ask whether they were reminded that the amounts allotted for them would lapse, if they did not submit accounts in proper time.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They were informed.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Was no reply received?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—No reply was expected. They were reminded towards the latter part for Karkadagam.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Answer to question 81, Appendix III. In Chovvannur, a portion of the amount allotted had to be transferred for the payment for a previous year's work. No proposals were sent to utilise the whole of the balance allotment. Are not proposals sent, when the amount is allotted?

President.—Did you not submit proposals to utilise the amount sanctioned?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I want time to look into the records.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is it that is generally done? Are not proposals sent along with the budget to the Government?

President.—As soon as proposals are received for the framing of the budget, we allow or disallow them according to the necessities when the budget is ultimately passed. Then only it will be known how much amount is available for works, and they have to take up the works in accordance with the provisions made.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—In each case they have to submit proposals, and amounts are budgetted according to them. There is no reason why they should get more sums budgetted. Here, in the present case, the amount spent is less than the amount budgetted.

President.—Generally, they will have to apply to the Government for the sanction of substantial amounts, and they have to submit proposals with estimates to the Government before the framing of the budget, and the amounts provided must

suffice. Sometimes various processes will have to be undergone before the budget is sanctioned.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Are they not asked to submit proposals?

President.—Departments like Public Works, etc., consume a large amount, and it is their duty to send estimates with proposals.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Out of Rs. 280 allotted to the Chovvannur Panchayat, only Rs. 68 was utilised. I simply want to bring this to the notice of the Government.

President.—Had you any interview with the Panchayat authorities?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I had correspondence with them, Sir.

President.—Does the correspondence show that they have sent the proposals in time?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Panchayat sent me copies of the proposals sent up.

President.—From those copies were you able to know that proposals were sent in time?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Yes, Sir.

President.—Does the Agricultural Department say that they were not sent in time?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Yes, Sir; but our Panchayat Member says that they were not sent in time.

President.—In all these things, a personal interview will make clear many matters. You just ask them to give information, and then place the matter before the Council. If they do not do it, then you can question them. These Panchayat members may be asked to take more interest in the matter.

82. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats be pleased to state the average amount annually given to a Panchayat in the last five years?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—

1097	Rs. 1,097—1—10
1098	„ 853—15—4
1099	„ 975—0—7
1100	„ 1,290—10—6
1101	„ 1,038—3—5

A caste-war statement of agricultural and horticultural scholarship-holders.

83. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the Diwan's Proceedings R. O. C. No. 1779/90, dated 12th August 1917, and to state the total

APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 68.)

Year.	Expenditure allowed.
	Rs. As. Ps.
1092	Rs. 66—0—0
1093	991—0—0
1094	696—0—0
1095	1,383—0—0
1096	650—0—0
1097	751—0—0
1098	994—0—0
1099	1,074—0—0
1100	1,064—0—0
1101	1,029—0—0

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 68.)

Year.	Tiruvilluamala.	Kaniarkod.	Pampadi.
1093	401—4—9	462—8—0	60—0—0
1094	172—0—0	327—0—0	40—0—0
1095	60—0—0	680—9—0	20—0—0
1096	20—0—0	170—10—8	20—0—0
1097	...	24—0—0	...
1098	...	...	...
1099	460—1—0	259—5—4	25—0—0
1100	26—0—0	382—3—3	25—0—0
1101	24—0—0	492—0—0	25—0—0

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 81.)

Name of village.	Amount allotted.	Amount spent.	Reason for lapse.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Artat	237—0—0	237—0—0	
Kattakampal	1,115—1—4	1,090—15—10	
Porkkulam	282—0—0	42—11—5	Payment had to be delayed pending disposal of complaints about the execution of work.
Kadavallur	246—0—0	30—13—0	The Panchayat was under reconstitution, and so the whole amount could not be utilised.
Kadangod	370—0—0	169—5—0	Delay in submitting accounts in time led to the lapse. The works were however, done.
Choyvannur	280—0—0	68—0—0	A portion of the amount allotted had to be transferred for payment for a previous year's work. No proposals were sent to utilise the whole of the balance allotment.